



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
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FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montaña

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mr. Frank S. Bacio

Ms. Barbara Bigby
Ms. Rita Hall
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mrs. Anne S. Hill
Mr. Carl E. Moore

MINUTES OF THE **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Montaña called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairperson Montaña led in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chairperson Eleanor R. Montaña
Vice Chairperson Frank Bacio
Barbara Bigby
Rita Hall
Anne S. Hill
Carl Moore

Excused Absent

John Hammargren

Guest

La Sonya Gibbs, Department of Children and Family Services
Cassandra Youngblood, Auditor-Controller

Staff

Lee Millen
Nyla Jefferson

APPROVAL OF FEBRARY 3, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Vice Chairperson Bacio and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting of January 20, 2010 were approved with the following correction:

On page 3, Children Are Our Future, should read, "...needs repair, water damage leakage was noted..."

CHAIR'S REPORT

- The Chair shared the Los Angeles Times Editorial article, *Problems at Challenger*, (1/29/10).

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$1, 538.93.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM PRESENTATION

La Sonya Gibbs, MPA, Department of Children and Family Services, Administrator of the Communications/Scholarship Youth Development Services Division, provided a DCFS scholarship packet to Commissioners and briefly summarized its contents. The budget for High School graduates and the emancipated youth scholarships is \$2.3 million and \$1.4 million respectively. Social Workers identify eligible DCFS Youth 16-20 years of age, monitor their performance during the length of the program, which can range from one year to five years depending on the type of scholarship. "Celebration 2010" will be held on June 8, 2010 at the Disney Concert Hall. The scholarship programs are designed to reflect the donors' stipulations. Ms. Gibbs offered to find scholarship applicants for the Commission. Staff was asked to provide Ms. Gibbs copies of the Commission's updated scholarship application.

Chairperson Montaña thanked Ms. Gibbs for her excellent and informative presentation.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE 2010 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION/PROGRAM

Following discussion, the Commission reduced the number of pages in the application, eliminated the request for the social security number along with other minor modifications. Commissioner Hill submitted the updated application to staff for revision. The final review of the revised application will be addressed at the next meeting.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE 2010 STRATEGIC PLAN

Discussion ensued and further discussion will occur at the next meeting:

- Address the reduction of Group Homes
- Evaluate the inspection form
- Consider how the Commission does business/establish rules
- Invite County Counsel to an upcoming meeting to address the Commission's Ordinance
- Consider establishing a revisit of Group Homes as not to occur earlier than 8-9 months.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS ON GROUP HOMES AND/OR DETENTION FACILITIES INSPECTIONS FROM JANUARY 28, 2010 TO FEBRUARY 2, 2010

Human Services Network – 26, #2 – Commissioners Bigby and Hill The facility was visited on January 28, 2010 and was found to be in satisfactory condition. **Areas of Concern:** The carpet needs to be repaired in all three bedrooms and the office.

Edelman's Children Court – Commissioner Hall and Moore The facility was visited on January 29, 2010, and was found to be in satisfactory condition. **Area of Concern:** The control panel has been inoperable for two years. Commissioner Moore received a fax responding to his questions.

Long Beach Courthouse – Chairperson Montaña The facility was visited on February 1, 2010, and was found to be in satisfactory condition. **Areas of Concern:** The fire extinguishers need updating. No improvements have been made since her last inspection. The ground breaking ceremony for the new courthouse is scheduled in May 2010.

Whittier Courthouse – Vice Chairperson Bacio and Commissioners Hammagren The facility was visited on February 1, 2010. **Areas of Concern:** The facility has not had a Command Inspection in the past three years. The Court became a state entity on January 29, 2010.

Lennox Sheriff's Station – Commissioners Hall and Moore The facility was visited on February 2, 2010 and was found to be in satisfactory condition.

David and Margaret Home – 12, #3 - Commissioners Bigby and Hill The facility was visited on February 2, 2010 and was found to be in satisfactory condition.

Torrance Courthouse – Chairperson Montaña The facility was visited on February 2, 2010 and was found to be in satisfactory condition.

Luvlee's Residential Care – 29, #1 - Vice Chairperson Bacio and Commissioner Hammagren The facility was visited on February 2, 2010 and it was found to be in satisfactory condition.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Moore received a fax from the Century Regional Detention Facility reporting the Use of Force Statistics from 06/01/09 to 12/22/09. The statistics are incompatible with

the data provided by Commander Ruiz. The Commission will address this inconsistency at the next SBC's business meeting.

Cassandra Youngblood, Auditor-Controller, suggested that the Commission inspect a Group Home that is under investigation by the State's Community Care Licensing Department once their investigation is complete.

Commissioner Hall reported that there are food banks that provide large boxes of food for \$25 to \$30. The websites are angelsministries.com and treasurebox.com. The food is available to anyone interested; there are no prerequisites.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.